



The Sounds of Section S-4S



Volume 11, Issue 3

Serving Section 4 South of the Southern Region, Order of the Arrow

Winter 2004 Edition

2004 Section S-4S Conference Nearing “Circle the Fire, Feed the Flame”

Arrowmen from around the State of Florida will gather at Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation in Jupiter, Florida, for Section S-4S's annual conference on April 16-18, 2004. The section conference, hosted this year by Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, is one of the largest gatherings of Scouts in Florida and one of the largest gatherings of Arrowmen in the nation. The event is one of the most important events for our Section and is perhaps the most exciting for the individual Arrowman.

During the conference weekend, Arrowmen will attend great seminars, lodges will compete in committee competitions, ceremonialists will gather to learn and also to compete for Best of Section, and lodge members will participate in the Quest for the Golden Arrow events. Additionally, participants will be able to enjoy the many aspects of the American Indian culture. There will be drumming, singing, dancing, and craftwork. Saturday evening will feature a Pow Wow with a colorful and impressive display of American Indian dancing and regalia. The fun will not stop there, as Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge has promised 24 hours a day of awesome fun and GREAT food! Section S-4S also boasts some of the best shows available to Arrowmen.

While the fun is always welcomed by all, there is still business to conduct on Sunday morning. The weekend competitions and displays will be followed by an awards ceremony to recognize the best in section. Afterwards, the lodges will vote for the section officers who will serve S-4S for the 2004-2005 program year.

The 2004 S-4S Section Conference weekend theme is “Circle the Fire, Feed the Flame.” The theme was appropriately chosen to represent that as Arrowmen, we “Circle the Fire” in brotherhood, an action Kichkinet caused every member to do. As Arrowmen we were chosen not only based on what we have done, but for what we are expected to do in the future. “Feed the Flame” explains the ideology of our Order, to continue to feed the fire of cheerfulness. The goal of the 2004 S-4S Section Conference is simply our theme, and we hope the conference strengthens the bonds of brotherhood in the section and causes the flame of cheerfulness to grow ever brighter!

Don't miss out on this exciting weekend. Join your brothers at Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation on April 16-18. Register now through your lodge to reserve your weekend activity patch and to avoid a late fee. See you there!

2004 Section S-4S Conference Patch. *The flames on the patch exemplify the fire of cheerfulness and the Scouting Spirit. The rounded log bottom shows the unity of the Section as each lodge number is shown circling the fire in brotherhood. As tradition follows, the addition of the gator shows the spirit and identification of the host lodge. The three W's are the symbols of our Order's three foundations, brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. The distinctive logo found on the third log from the left is the brand used at Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation, site of the 2004 Section Conference.*



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2 Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

Greetings and happy New Year! I hope all of you have enjoyed the holidays and are ready for the new year. The section officers and I have taken this break to rejuvenate ourselves and prepare for the rest of our section year.

We have accomplished much in the past few months, including the successful hosting of the National Leadership Seminars (NLS), one of the best section seminars in recent memory, and the approval of the 2004 Section Conference plan by the Council of Chiefs. All of these things have done much to improve our section and will have a noticeable effect on our future. The leadership skills learned at NLS and Section Seminars are going to make our section one of the best prepared for the coming years, and the approval of the section conference plan will help to make this years section conference a truly memorable one. I would like to congratulate all of our NLS participants for their hard work, and I want to encourage them to complete their tickets and reach the goals they set for themselves in October. To the members of the Council of Chiefs, I want to say thank you for your hard work and diligence in approving the conference plan and completing all the necessary business. I would also like to thank the leadership of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. Their hard work and planning of the 2004 Section Conference is commendable, and it will truly pay dividends in April.

I would also like to thank the members of our section for their participation in 2003 One Day of Service. You all did an incredible job, and I am happy to report that our section performed many incredible hours of service.

Thank you all for your dedication to the principles of leadership and service, and I look forward to seeing you all in April at the Section Conference!

Yours in Brotherhood,



Seth Mollitt
Section Chief



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OA National Planning Meeting

On December 27, 2003, the nation's section chiefs gathered together with the National Committee for the Order of the Arrow's national meeting. The meeting, held outside of Dallas, Texas, started on Saturday evening with the election of the National Chief and National Vice Chief and continued through Tuesday the 30th. The chiefs spend the first day and a half electing the Order's national officers, starting with the National Chief and ending with conference vice chiefs. This year the section chiefs elected Jeff Hayward from Tetonwana Lodge to serve as National Chief, and David Dowty from Black Eagle Lodge to serve as National Vice Chief. They also elected Seth Dearmin, Ed Lynes, Tim Wallace, and Joe Sadewasser to serve as the Southern, Northeastern, Western, and Central Region Chiefs, respectively.

After electing national officers the section chiefs were divided into nine committees and began working on preparations for NOAC 2004. (Our section chief, Seth Mollitt, was elected to serve as Conference Vice Chief for the Inductions and Ceremonial Events Committee.) The Arrowmen worked hard and came up with many ideas that were presented to the members of the National Committee on Monday night. The section chiefs also approved NOAC's theme, "Chosen to Serve, Inspired to Lead," and began working on logos for the conference merchandise.

The meeting was hugely successful and many great strides were made in the preparation for NOAC.

*Jeff Hayward,
new National
Chief*



*David Dowty,
National Vice
Chief*



2003 Section Seminars Highlights



On November 14-16, 2003, Arrowmen from Section S-4S gathered at Baden-Powell Scout Reservation (Camp Shands) for a weekend of training. Section S-4S members experienced some of the best courses available to Arrowmen. Many of the course instructors are our Order's best trainers! Courses included subjects in the following areas: Ceremonies, OA Program, Lodge Administration, American Indian culture, and Scout patch design. Attendees left the weekend with an enormous amount of



information for sharing with their fellow lodge members.

On the lighter side, the Arrowmen from our seven lodges were also able to enjoy a great fellowship and fun during the social events. When the work was done and it was time for a little relax-

ation, volleyball, ultimate frisbee, and an Iron-man challenge were just what was needed to provide a perfect ending to the weekend. Saturday evening featured a patch auction, patch trading, a delicious crackerbarrel.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Below is just a small sample of the weekend activities and the many attendees!

Congratulations and a huge thanks to Echochotee Lodge for hosting a very successful Section Seminars and for their fantastic hospitality at Camp Shands.

A Small Sample of the Weekend's Awesome Activities





National Leadership Seminars Prepares Lodge Leaders for the Future

The National Leadership Seminars is the Order of the Arrow's premier training program. National Leadership Seminars, or NLS, is held in our section every two years and provides the Arrowmen of the lodges of Sections S-4N and S-4S an opportunity to receive the best leadership training the OA has to offer. NLS was held on October 17-19, 2003, at the Future Farmers of America Leadership Training Center in

Haines City, Florida. The seminar was hosted by the Southern Region and was staffed by some of the best trainers in our section and by two national officers, Region Chief Frank McMillan and National Vice Chief Rich Moore. Every one of our eight lodges was represented at NLS, and all of the participants learned something new.

The information the participants learned at NLS will be a great help to

their lodges in the future and will help them to become better leaders and better Arrowmen. NLS is one of the greatest leadership training opportunities around and provides arrowmen not only valuable information but also a great fellowship experience. NLS will be held in our section again in 2005. You should definitely make plans to attend!

2004 National Leadership Seminars, Haines City, Florida



Scoutreach/OA Mentoring--Just Do It

The National Order of the Arrow recently reemphasized its commitment to the Scoutreach/OA Mentoring Program. The Scoutreach/OA Mentoring Program is a partnership between local lodge service committees and the local Scoutreach professionals and leaders. The program is designed to teach our skills as Scouts and Scouters to inner-city and rural Scoutreach units. The National Committee added participation in Scoutreach/OA Mentoring as

an optional element of Quality Lodge program and our Council of Chiefs has added participation as additional points on the best all around lodge criteria.

The Scoutreach/OA Mentoring Program matches Scouts and Scouters with Scoutreach units in order to deliver a specific plan of work to the unit. Scouts and Scouters may be asked to assist with troop program, overnight campouts, or simply to attend troop meetings to provide a

role model. The service is agreed upon by the Scoutmaster and the mentor in advance. Mentors can earn three levels of recognition, based upon completing three different plans and agreements with Scoutreach units.

For more information about Scoutreach/OA Mentoring, check the National Order of the Arrow website at www.oa-bsa.org, or contact your lodge chief.

High Adventure Programs Designed for the Arrowman



The National Order of the Arrow Committee, in conjunction with Philmont Scout Ranch and the Charles L. Sommers High Adventure Base, is offering two unique high adventure programs for Arrowmen who are between 16 to 20 years old. These programs are aimed at providing an affordable experience at these premier Scouting facilities in exchange for Arrowmen providing a week of cheerful service.

The OA Trail Crew program at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico, is a two-week adventure designed to strengthen the purpose of the Order through Scout camping. Participants spend the first week providing service to the trails of Philmont. The second week is reserved for a crew-customized trek designed by the participants. The

program is aimed not only at service and high adventure, but is also centered around building leadership skills, learning advanced wilderness camping techniques, and developing a deeper understanding of the Order.

The Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage at Charles L. Sommers High Adventure Base in Ely, Minnesota, is a 13-day program similar to the Trail Crew program. Participants canoe through the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The first week is spent with the U.S. Forest Service improving portage trails and campsites. The second week features a personally planned canoeing adventure in which Arrowmen canoe, swim, boulder, and portage.

The cost for Philmont Trail Crew had a slight increase this year. The fee is now \$125. However, the

Voyage fee remained at \$100. The participant must also pay for transportation to Philmont or the Charles L. Sommers High Adventure Base. Dates for Trail Crew and the Voyage are listed below. Each program is offering six sessions this summer in June and July. Detailed information and applications for both programs can be found on the National OA website at www.bsa-oa.org. A flash media presentation is available for both programs so Arrowmen can see what these programs are all about. If you wish additional information, please contact your lodge chief. Do not miss this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Submit your application soon and be part of the 2004 Trail Crew or Voyage.

OA Trail Crew Dates

Summer 2004 dates are:

Session 1: June 8-22

Session 2: June 15-29

Session 3: June 22-July 6

Session 4: June 29-July 13

Session 5: July 6-20

Session 6: July 13-27

OA Voyage Dates

Summer 2004 dates are:

Session 1: June 10-23

Session 2: June 17-30

Session 3: June 24-July 7

Session 4: July 1-14

Session 5: July 8-21

Session 6: July 15-28



The legendary "Tooth of Time" at Philmont.

"The Order of the Arrow is a thing of the out of doors rather than the indoors. It was born in an island wilderness. It needs the sun and rain, the woods and the plains, the waters and the starlit sky."

-E. Urner Goodman

Region Gathering Held in New Orleans



Every year the section officers from around the south gather for a weekend of training and fellowship. This year the chiefs, their advisers, and their officers gathered in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 12-14, 2003. The officers spent the weekend meeting their counterparts from across the region and receiving training from several current and former national officers.

After completing the training, the officers headed into New Orleans on Saturday night. The officers spent the evening in the historic French Quarter of New Orleans.

There the participants were able to sample the delicious cajun cuisine at a local restaurant. Afterwards the officers were sent into the city to work on a scavenger hunt and to just get to know each other.

The officers had an incredible time at the gathering and much was learned about conference planning, being chiefly, and the specifics of each of their positions. In addition to gaining knowledge, the officers also made many new friends and enjoyed the culture of New Orleans.



2004 NOAC Returns to Ames, Iowa

“Chosen to Serve, Inspired to Lead”

Thousands of Arrowmen are preparing to converge on Iowa State University’s campus the week of July 31 through August 5, 2004, for the 28th National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC). With an expected attendance of over 7,000 Arrowmen, NOAC is the second largest Scouting event in the nation. This is the second time the OA has visited the 1,800-acre campus at ISU; the first NOAC in Ames was in 1998. Iowa State was founded in 1858 and currently serves about 25,000 students. The campus provides over a million square feet of facilities. The nearby city of Ames, with it’s 50,000 residents, provides a pleasant setting for the conference.

For those Arrowmen who enjoy

OA trivia, the theme for the 1998 NOAC was “Memories of the Past, A Vision for the Future.” The 1998 NOAC was also the first time that the Conference was “live” on the web with its own website maintained from the conference and updated daily to keep Arrowmen and their families informed about the conference activities. The site is still available at the National Order of the Arrow website under the National Events link.

So, what is there to do at a NOAC? The week’s program is packed with the highest quality training and events. Activities will include athletic events, ceremonial competitions, outdoor camping and high-adventure displays, American

Indian events, and much more. One of the highlights of this gathering of Arrowmen are the four shows, which this year will follow the 2004 Conference theme, “Chosen to Serve, Inspired to Lead.”

Arrowmen from Section S-4S can also look forward to the best-ever Section Gathering at NOAC. As the largest section contingent in the nation, we will be showing everyone else what fellowship is all about.

If you would like to know more about the National Order of the Arrow Conference, visit the NOAC website at www.aa-bsa.org. Contact your lodge to register today so that you can be a part of NOAC 2004.

Around the Section



Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge

Brothers of the Section,

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge is working endlessly and indefinitely in preparation for Section Conference 2004. Our proud Arrowmen promise to deliver the most fun, exciting, food-ridden conference since the last time we hosted! As Program Director for the conference, I assure the nonstop nature of our Conference is only offered in one place: Gator Country! I urge every Arrowman in Section S-4S to join us at the 2004 Section Conference in Tequesta, Florida, on April 16-18.

Aal-Pa-Tah’s commitment to the success of the conference has been instilled in every member of our Lodge, especially the most recent Ordeal class. We increased communications to a weekly basis with the Lodge to draw a complete view of all of our Arrowmen’s resources and bring our Lodge to its fullest potential. From elongated and extended sidewalks, to a new full-sized basketball court, new fencing, 200% increased parking, refurbished half-pipe, the building of a dance arbor with Pow-Wow influence, the Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation is growing by leaps and bounds in preparation for April’s gathering.

Aside from camp improvements, the Lodge has taken a special interest in immersing our members in the American Indian culture, having weekend seminars on a range

of craft, dance, and drumming styles, as to add to bring them closer to the basis, beginning, and meaning of our Order. Our March Spring Pow-Wow is our final gathering before Section Conference, but many work days lie ahead and we will, as all Scouts should, BE PREPARED.

In Witahemui,
Travis P. Sheehan
Dasjoker237@yahoo.com



Echokotee Lodge

Greetings Section S-4S,

Echokotee enjoyed hosting the S-4S Section Seminars. Vice Chief of Training Sean Royston led the host team well. Our lodge recently held our winter fellowship. During the weekend, we honored four deserving brothers with Vigil, Section Chief Seth Mollitt and Membership Chairman Moishe Groger were presented with the Founder’s Award, and Echokotee donated 22 pints of blood to LifeSouth in hopes of saving lives. We hope to make the blood drive an annual tradition during the winter fellowship.

As we continue into 2004, the lodge is planning meaningful service enhancements to Camp Shands. Echokotee will play the key role in building new plat-

forms for many of the camp's troop sites. In March, we plan to accomplish a great deal of service at our Spring Fellowship, entitled "Western Extravaganza." All Arrowmen in the lodge will dress as cowboys or Indians during the weekend to show spirit. The weekend will also bring in many new brothers. We continue to grow in number and strength.

Echockotee will meet you at Section Conference 2004!

Yours in WWW,
Chad J. Fralick
Lodge Chief, Echockotee Lodge (Quality Lodge 2003)
www.echockotee.org



Osceola Lodge

Osceola Lodge celebrated its achievements of 2003 at the annual Busk Banquet held in December. Brothers gathered at Camp Miles for a weekend of fun, food and fellowship, which included chapter competitions consisting of conference-style games. All four chapters competed in a game of OA Jeopardy, which was won by Yaha Hajo in a marvelous comeback against Oscen Tustennuggee. The next day we held the LLDC, completed work projects around camp and ended the day with an epic game of ultimate frisbee.

At the banquet we said good-bye to outgoing Lodge Chief Drew Keller and swore in the new officers. Congratulations to: Casey Nesselhauf, Lodge Chief; Eric Wolf, Vice Chief of Administration; Evan Waldt, Vice Chief of Programs; Josh Black, Secretary; Derek Woods, Treasurer; and Jason Gumtow, Historian. The new officers are all looking forward to next year when Osceola Lodge will continue the tradition of excellence by remaining a quality lodge, hosting outstanding lodge and chapter events, "cleaning up" at the competitions during section conference, and gathering with our brothers from across the nation at NOAC.

Osceola Lodge will also have the honor of hosting the 2004 Section S-4S Seminars this coming November at Camp Flying Eagle. We hope to see you all there as it will prove to be an awesome OA experience.

Yours in Scouting,
Casey Nesselhauf
2004 Osceola Lodge Chief



O-Shot-Caw Lodge

I hope all is well around the section. In case you are wondering, things could not be better for O-Shot-Caw.

These last few months have been jam-packed with events filled with tremendous accomplishments.

Starting off the lodge year was the Fall Ordeal held at Camp Seminole on October 10-12, 2003. With a 25% increase over last year's attendance, a lot more than thought possible was accomplished. The lodge generated one of the most successful ordeals in its history. We were able to restore damaged roads, mulch nature trails, clear overgrown plants in the amphitheater, and prepare the camp for the Haunted Forest.

Throughout the course of October and November, O-Shot-Caw was given the chance to relax and shoot the breeze with its brothers from other lodges in the Section. We enjoyed seeing everyone at NLS and the Section Seminars. It's always great to catch up with our section friends.

On October 25, 2003, the O-Shot-Caw Lodge held its biggest and most popular event, the Haunted Forest. In one night, we had over 4,000 members of the Scouting community venture through Camp Seminole, where all of our chapters had displays set up. These displays included: graveyards, pumpkin patches, deranged clowns, ghosts, car wrecks, aliens, hurricanes, medieval warriors, and Scoutmasters. This event is a fundraiser for the Joseph Aaron Abbott Campership Fund, which raises money to help send underprivileged Scouts to our local summer camp, Camp Lone Oak. Despite the final game of the World Series and rainy weather, we managed to raise \$15,550 for this fund sending hundreds of fine young men to summer camp.

I think that's about it. It's good to hear from everyone again, and I'll see you at the Section Conference!

Bound in Brotherhood,
Brian Polino
Lodge Chief

Section S-4S Officers and Advisers



Left to Right: Jeff Jonasen, Adviser; David Summerlot, Secretary; Travis Sheehan, Historian; Seth Mollitt, Chief; Adam Wintenburg, Vice Chief; and Elam Patterson, Associate Adviser.

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Secretary

David Summerlot

Calendar of Events

2004

March

7-13 Philbreak (Session 1), Philmont, New Mexico
14-20 Philbreak (Session 1), Philmont, New Mexico
21-27 Philbreak (Session 1), Philmont, New Mexico

April

16-18 Section S-4S Conference
Tanah-Keeta Scout Reservation, Tequesta, Florida

May

19-21 BSA National Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

June-July

Philmont OA Trail Crew, New Mexico
OA Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage, Minnesota

July-August

National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC)
Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa (July 31-Aug 5)

November

5-7 Section S-4S Seminars and Council of Chiefs
Camp Flying Eagle, Bradenton, Florida

In the Next Edition...

In the Spring edition of *The Sounds of the Section*, look for the following articles:

- National Order of the Arrow Conference Update
- Section S-4S OA Wilderness Voyage Camperships
- Around the Section - Lodge Reports